

# News Release

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## **Corps of Engineers to resurrect two Anacostia streams**

**Baltimore** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, plans to restore two tributaries of the Anacostia River in Washington, D.C. Both streams are severely degraded and have segments that run in pipes beneath Anacostia Park. The watercourses will be returned to the surface, and other habitat and recreational improvements will be made in the park.

The Corps began a feasibility study in late January that will determine the best method to bring to the surface the two tributaries. After they are restored, the streams will bring back fish habitat to an area that has almost none in its present condition.

The study will also look at several other means to restore the ecosystem of the D.C. portion of the Anacostia watershed, continuing the ongoing efforts of the Corps and the D.C. government in other projects in the area. The Corps is exploring the creation of wetlands, stabilizing riverbanks and reforesting sections of the park. Each component will be designed to fit within the park's recreational needs.

The Corps and the D.C. Department of Health identified these initiatives. The goal is to improve the critical green space the park provides to the community. Other agencies involved include the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Commission and the U.S. Geological Survey.

Ninth-grade students from Anacostia Senior High School assisted the Corps with some of the fieldwork for the first step in the process, the preliminary restoration plan. The feasibility study, which should be completed by spring 2002, is the second step. Then the project will be designed. Construction is estimated to begin in 2003.

## **Media List**

<i>Washington Post</i> (Metro Desk), 202-334-5672	SD 013
<i>Washington Post</i> , 202-334-5609	SD 016
<i>Washington News Observer</i> , 202-232-1711	SD 030
<i>Washington Times</i> , 202-832-0659	SD 031
<i>Washington Afro American</i> , 202-939-7461	SD 032
<i>Washington City Paper</i> , 202-332-8500	
<i>Prince George's County Journal</i>	SD 029

## **Environmental Groups**

Sierra Club, 410-792-2938  
Clean Water Action, 410-280-3513  
Save Our Streams, 410-969-0135 or 410-766-3932  
National Wildlife Federation, 202-797-6646

## **Others**

D.C. Health Dept. PAO, 202-442-4809	SD 047
HQUSACE PAO	SD 001
NAD PAO	SD 002
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 202-962-3201	
Anacostia Watershed Restoration Society, 301-699-3317	
U.S. Geological Survey Communications Office, 703-648-4466	
Anacostia Riverkeeper, 202-554-2060	